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January 16, 2004 LB 382

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. You've heard the opening on AM2242, offered by Senator Synowiecki to LB 382. Open for discussion on that amendment. Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I would like to rise in support of both the amendment and this bill. This is a situation...the amendment deals with people who do have collective bargaining agreements that, due to the nature of the tasks and the way that they do their work, they don't always want to take their lunch hour at a specific assigned time. And as long as that is an agreement that's in place, whether it's collective bargaining or otherwise with the employer, they should be able to bypass that. So that's the purpose of this amendment. I do support the amendment. It is in concert with the way we do things in the business where I work. And I also support the bill, and I thank Senator Synowiecki for bringing the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Senator Cunningham, on the Synowiecki amendment.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. Did you say you weren't buying lunch? Okay. I would stand in support of Senator Synowiecki's bill. I think it's just a matter of fairness. I didn't realize that this wasn't the case now. And any employer that doesn't go along with this, in my mind, is simply being unfair. Anybody that works an 8-hour shift is deserving of a 30-minute lunch break unless they have it bargained in their collective bargaining agreement. So I do support this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Cunningham. Any further senators wishing to speak on the Synowiecki amendment? At this time there aren't any, Senator Synowiecki. Did you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Just encourage the support of the adoption of the amendment and also of the bill. Thank you, Senator.